

DNRP GIS TECH TIP: KC Parcel Tools Tip

If you are an ArcView user looking for parcel related information (such as taxpayer addresses), you may wish to use the King County GIS Center extension for ArcView, KC Parcel Tools. This tool makes accessing any of the King County Assessor's Office information about parcels quite easy. In order to make use of this extension, though, you will first need to contact a DNRP GIS Staff person to install Oracle drivers on your computer. Once you have the drivers installed, you can then refer to the KC Parcel Tools documentation on the KCGIS Center Knowledge Base web site for information on how to install and use the extension.

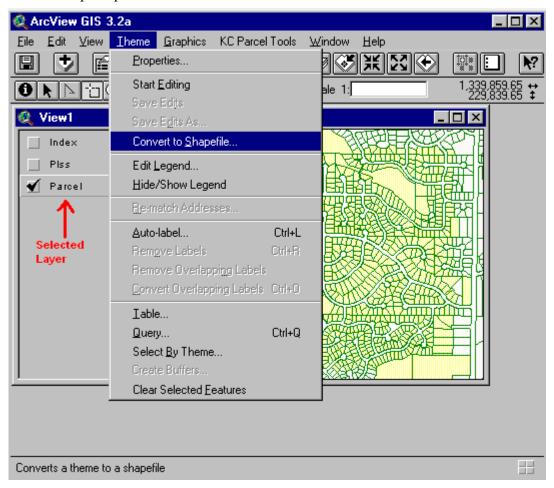
Although KC Parcel Tools is a helpful tool to use, you may run into a small limitation it has if you need parcel information about a large number of parcels. Due to the character limit of the SQL queries the tool is based upon, KC Parcel Tools can only retrieve information on 1000 or less parcels at one time. If you select more than 1000 parcels and attempt to retrieve information on them, you will see the error message shown below:



However, getting around this limitation is fairly simple. First, it is assumed that you have a new or old ArcView project open with the KC Parcel Tools extension turned on ("File....Extensions", scroll down and place a checkmark by "KC Parcel Tools"). In addition, you must have already used the KC Parcel Tools pulldown menu selection "Add required themes".

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Now, in the Parcel layer, using any ArcView selection tool or method, select all the parcels you are interested in getting information about. Don't worry that the number you are selecting is greater than the 1000 parcel limit. Save this set out as a new shapefile by selecting (when the View with Parcel is active, and the Parcel layer itself is also selected in the Table of Contents) "Theme....Convert to Shapefile" (see screen shot below). You can give the shapefile any name you wish or even accept the default name. Save the shapefile in a temporary or working directory, and click "Yes" to add it to the View when prompted.



Select the new shapefile in the View Table of Contents and click on the Theme Properties button. In the Theme Properties dialogue box, change the "Theme Name:" to "Parcels" or "King County Tax Parcels". You must do this because KC Parcel

Tools will only pull information for themes with these Table of Contents names. You can also use the name "Parcel", but then you must make sure your new



shapefile is above the original Parcel layer in the View Table of Contents or KC Parcel Tools will use the wrong layer to gather information on.

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Now you are ready to start retrieving information. Click the "Open Theme Table" button for the new shapefile. Select 1000 or less records in the table, and switch back to the View. Pull down the KC Parcel Tools menu and select "Look up info on selected parcels". After the information you requested is retrieved, you can return to the theme table and select a new set of less than 1000 records. Proceeding in this manner, the number of parcels you can retrieve information on is unlimited.

TECHNICAL RESOURCES

For more information about doing ArcView analyses, consult other DNRP GIS Tech Tips in the "Analysis" folder on the GIS Tech Tips (http://dnr-web.metrokc.gov/dnrtech/gis/tips/Techtips.htm) intranet page.

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